

GRENOBLE ALPES METROPOLE (FR)

A new narrative for the boucles de l'isère park

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Team representative: architect / urbanist / landscapist
Localisation: Grenoble Alpes Métropole – Isères (38)
Population: City 158,454 inhab.; Grenoble Alpes metropolis 443,123 inhab.
Site under consideration: 1,650 ha (4,077 acres)
Project Site: (1) 9.8 ha (24.2 acres); (2) 0.7 ha (1.7 acres)
Site suggested by: Grenoble Alpes Métropole
Involved actor(s): City of Grenoble, La Tronche, Meylan,

Saint-Martin-d'Hères, Gières, Domène, Murianette, Grenoble Alpes Métropole, Conseil Départemental de l'Isère, Région Auvergne Rhône-Alpes, Agence d'Urbanisme de la Région Grenobloise, UGA Campus, CHUGA.
Site owner(s): GAM, communes, private
Competition follow-up: Workshop and study and building projects on one or several sites subject to change. Operational works may be initiated with partners.



Vue semi-aérienne de la partie Nord-Est de la métropole depuis le massif de la Chartreuse



Semi-aerial view of the reflection site (the Boucles de l'Isère Park) with location of project sites and prominent features

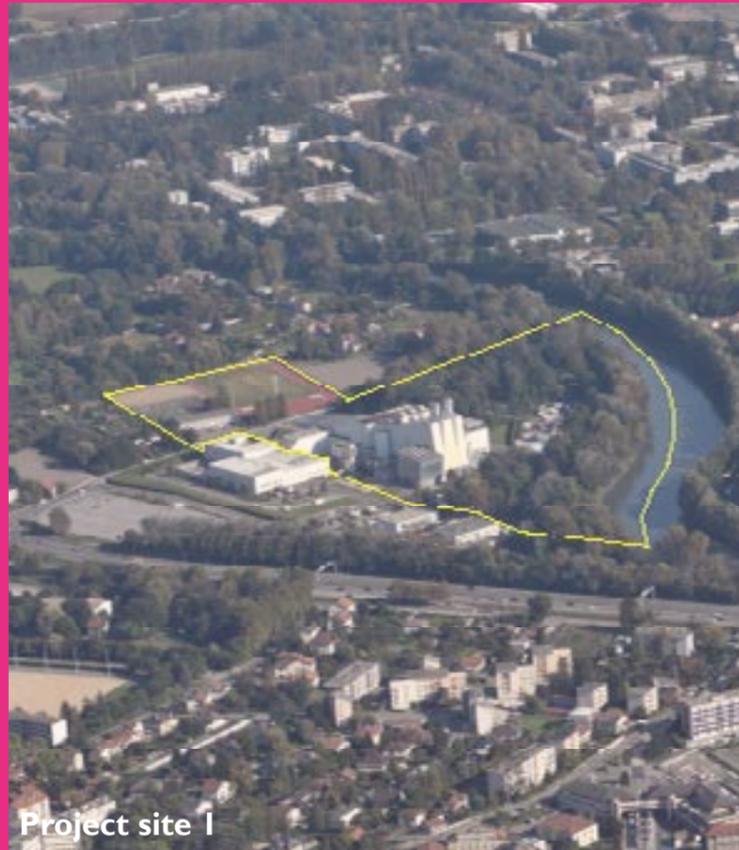
THE CHALLENGES OF THE INHABITED ENVIRONMENT

Grenoble Alpes Métropole is often identified by its proximity to the mountainous massifs. Yet, it is mostly the plain that residents call home and use daily. Therefore, beyond these great majestic natural spaces of the Alps, Grenoble Alpes Métropole wishes to reconnect the urban space and its inhabitants with generous natural spaces integrated into the city and accessible to all. These natural spaces are biodiversity refuges, a platform for leisure, recreational and mobility activities, of course, but they also serve agricultural, economic, productive uses, linked to flood risks, and all these features are the elements that must shape the reflection and projects.

The park is partly the result of an avoidance of the river, a protective reaction in the face of flood risks. Urban fabrics have developed with their back to the river, and the adoption of a technical approach to the territory has so far focused on a relation to the river from the perspective of technical infrastructures. So the Vibrant Towns/Cities theme should challenge this relationship to natural elements, and encourages an exploration of the park's diverse qualities and an interpretation of the aspects of its housing potential. The metropolitan technical facilities, the urban park and the agricultural activities that exist within the park require that it be studied as a productive space as much as as a leisure space. The – sometimes informal – housing and the travelling axes raise questions regarding its housing potential and mobilities. Biodiversity and the presence of water raise questions as to the living beings' place.

IN A QUEST FOR A NEW COLLECTIVE MINDSET, WHAT PROCESS COULD FEDERATE AND GIVE LIFE TO THE BOUCLES DE L'ISÈRE PARK?

HOW CAN THE TERRITORY ABSORB, IN ITS MATERIALITY, WATER-RELATED RISKS WHILE VALORISING ITS PRESENCE AND ITS BENEFITS?



Project site 1



Project site 2



The large Grange, project site 2



Farming activity, Taillat loop



Ramps of the UIVE project site 1

QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

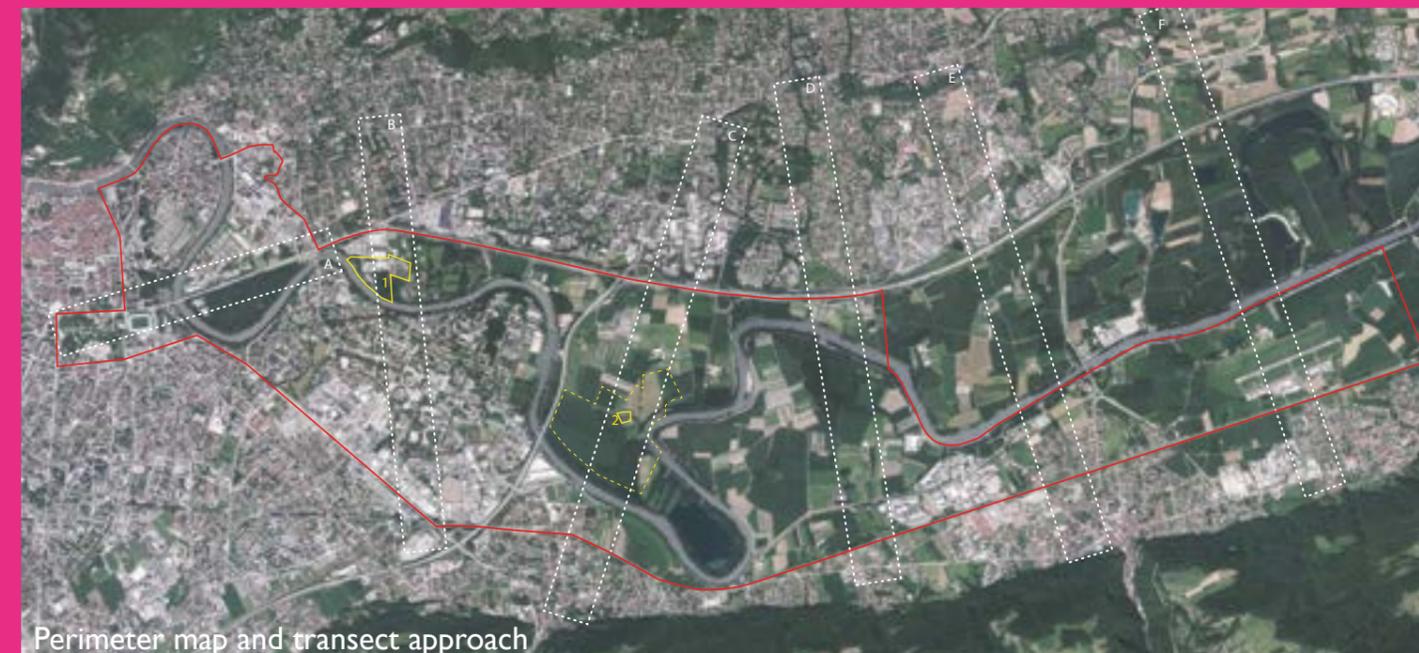
A decision, design and implementation process will take place for the projects that will open and connect the park to its environment, activate synergies, reveal the metabolisms that operate in the park, work with water and its events and valorise the site's quality as a dwelling place.

Common rules must be established that can be recreated (but not copied) to objects, projects and actions occurring within the park. These projects and actions may be listed according to their typology or the space or time «situations» they relate to. How do these rules help to reveal the park, bring it to life and make it a valued place?

The process developed by the candidates' teams may be carried out on both targeted project sites, but also on other sites identified by the candidates and deemed strategic in the context of their proposal.

It will also be phased from short to long term with transcalar work, from micro to macro, and immediate actions to make the park accessible, encourage its use and finely tune the interfaces between current projects.

There are several key Vibrant Towns/Cities themes concerning the Boucles de l'Isère park and the correct approach should make it possible to address them and translate them into the construction of a nature, urban and agricultural park constrained by the current challenges.



Perimeter map and transect approach